

CHAPTER XIX.

AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE JURISDICTION OF THE COURTS  
AND THE RULES OF PLEADING THEREIN.

SECTION 1. *Be it ordained by the people of North Carolina, in Convention assembled, and it is hereby ordained by the authority of the same,* That the jurisdiction of the several Courts of the State, and of Justices of the Peace, except as provided in this ordinance, shall be as in the year 1860.

Jurisdiction of  
Courts and  
Justices of  
Peace.

SEC. 2. *Be it further ordained,* That the several Superior Courts of Law, at the Spring Terms thereof only, unless otherwise herein provided, shall have exclusive original jurisdiction to hear, try and determine all actions of debt, covenant, assumpsit or account, where the sum, due or owing, amounts (principal and interest) to sixty dollars or more.

Actions of  
debt, where  
sum amounts  
to \$60, or more

SEC. 3. *Be it further ordained,* That all writs in debt, covenant, assumpsit or account shall be returnable to Spring Term and be served at least thirty days (Sundays included,) before the return day. Within the first three days of the return term, should the defendant pay to the plaintiff, or into Court to his use, one-tenth of the debt or demand (principal and interest,) and all costs to that time, he shall be allowed until next Spring Term to plead. At the said Spring Term, should the defendant pay to the plaintiff, or into Court to his use, one-fifth of the residue of the debt or demand and cost, he shall be allowed until the succeeding Spring Term to plead. At the said Spring Term, should the defendant pay to the plaintiff, or into Court to his use, one-half of the residue of the debt or demand, he shall be allowed until the succeeding Spring Term to plead. At the said Spring Term the plaintiff shall have judgment for the residue of his debt or demand : *Provided, however,* That

Should defend  
ant pay to  
plaintiff, with-  
in first three  
days of return  
term, one-  
tenth of debt &  
cost, he shall  
be allowed un-  
till next Spring  
Term to plead,  
then one-fifth  
of residue,  
succeeding  
Spring Term  
one half of  
residue, &c.

Proviso.